

CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST

SCHEDULE OF NEPA PROPOSED ACTIONS

January 1 – December 31, 2000

SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Forest Plan Revision

Location: Chugach National Forest, southcentral Alaska.

Description: The Forest is revising its Land Management Plan, from the original Plan completed in 1984. Changes to environmental, social, or legal conditions will be integrated into the revised Plan.

Scoping Status: Formal scoping commenced with the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on April 21, 1997 (Volume 62, Number 76). Preliminary revision issues were identified in the first edition of the Revision newsletter. During the months of November and December 1997, public workshops were conducted throughout southcentral Alaska. Over 1,000 letters, containing over 3,000 comments, were received during the scoping period. Analysis of those comments was used to identify the significant issues. The significant issues have been described as 'situation statements' and 'Public/Agency Interests'. The Interest Statements are mutually exclusive, with a range of possible ways for resolution. A summary of public interest and situation statements was sent out to participants on the revision mailing list. Management Area Prescriptions were developed in response to the situation/interest statements. Collaborative Learning workshops were conducted in March 1999, to seek input from the public for formulating draft alternatives. The prescriptions were applied to various areas around the Forest to develop a range of alternatives.

Analysis Status: There were 30 alternatives developed by the Forest Service, other agencies, and groups and members of the public. The Forest Service Interdisciplinary Team created eight draft alternatives. Individuals and group representatives of the public submitted twenty-two alternatives. On December 19, 1999, the Chugach National Forest Supervisor Dave Gibbons approved a range of six alternatives A through F, with the existing "No Action" Alternative to be analyzed in detail. Alternatives 6 and 13 were to be included also, but not analyzed in detail. From this range of alternatives, a single preferred alternative would be selected or derived.

Decision Date: The Draft Forest Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are scheduled for completion in June 2000, with the revised Forest Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement due for completion January 1, 2001. The Regional Forester is the Responsible Official on the Revision of the Forest Plan.

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